

LEBANON ✓  
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

→1894.←

---

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.**

L. E. HALL, CH'N,  
T. J. HARDY,  
W. B. HOLCOMB,

W. O. ANDERSON,  
W. W. MITCHELL,  
O. D. BOWEN.





**\*MINUTES\***

—OF THE—

**ORGANIZATION AND FIRST SESSION**

—OF THE—

**Lebanon Baptist Association,**

—AT—

**HATTIESBURG, MISS.,**

**November 27th and 28th, 1894.**

---

**OFFICERS:**

O. D. BOWEN,	-	-	-	-	MODERATOR
CHAS. G. ELLIOTT,	-	-	-	-	CLERK AND TREAS

---

The next meeting of the Association will be held with the Poplarville Church, beginning Thursday before the Third Sunday in September, 1895.

---

JOHN M. MURPHEY, PRINTER,  
MERIDIAN, MISS.



## INTRODUCTORY ADDRESS.

---

Acting in compliance with the request of the Lebanon Baptist Association, the writer takes pleasure in introducing this body of fellow-laborers to the brotherhood throughout our country, and would state the motive by which the churches were actuated in forming the body, and the object for which it was organized.

1. We believe that the principle of love to God and love to man influenced God's people to do what they believed would best promote His glory and the well-being of His creatures, and being guided, as we believe, by the Spirit and providence of God, and in the exercise of their God-given freedom of church independency, they have organized this Association in the district of country in which the Creator has placed them, and in so doing they feel assured of His approbation.

2. The object or purpose for which the Association was organized is in consonance with the foregoing. But to be more explicit: it is that churches may, through the union of consecrated forces, carry out the will of the great Head of the church as found in Matthew 28:19, 20, "Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations," &c. It is its purpose to assist in extending the Redeemer's Kingdom from the pine woods of Mississippi to the uttermost parts of the Earth, to give the gospel to the poor, to rescue the perishing, to lift up the fallen, to



promote the interests of the Saviour's cause among men by fostering and helping every branch of Christian benevolence as outlined in the Holy Scriptures. It is also its purpose to wage an aggressive war against every form of evil which blights our land.

3. This Association of churches has taken its stand by the side of the infallible word of God, and will "contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints." The principle of unfailing fidelity to Christ is inscribed upon its banner, and in his name we trust, and upon the Holy Spirit we rely for success. We extend the hand of fraternal fellowship to our sister Associations, and crave an interest in the sympathies, love and prayers of God's people. May peace abound. "Together let us sweetly live," and when our work on earth is finished may we all rest in the presence of Him whose loving smile is heaven.

Your brother in gospel bands,

O. D. BOWEN,

Moderator of the Lebanon Baptist Association.

## MINUTES.

---

In response to a proposition made through the Baptist Record to organize a new Association along the line of the N. O. & N. E. R. R., there assembled in Hattiesburg, Miss., on Tuesday, Nov. 27th, 1894, delegates representing the churches interested, to consider the advisability of such a step, and to perfect an organization unless there should be given some good reasons for not doing so. At 9.30 a. m. devotional exercises were opened by the Rev. L. M. Stone of Meridian, who read and commented upon the fifteenth chapter of John. At 10:15, Bro. O. D. Bowen was called to the chair, and Elder Chas. G. Elliott was made temporary Clerk.

Brethren Abner Polk and W. M. Connor were appointed to read the church letters.

Delegates responded from churches as follows:

Augusta—C. A. Bradley, J. P. Davis.

Eastabuchie—G. B. Lee, W. L. Hathorn.

Ellisville—Elder O. D. Bowen, J. M. Bush, J. F. Parker, Lee Wood, J. W. Quick, T. J. Hardy.

Hattiesburg—Elder L. E. Hall, W. J. Pack, G. Burkett, W. R. McDonald, J. E. Arnold, J. W. Mixon, T. E. Ross.

Immanuel—Elder Chas. G. Elliott, I. J. Tew.

Indian Springs—W. E. Hathorn, J. F. Mixon, R. D. Batson.

Laurel—K. D. Stephens, J. H. Bradley, M. C. Bowen.

Lumberton—W. A. Landrum.

Nicholson—J. L. Herron.

Poplarville—Elder W. W. Mitchell, Andrew Smith, S. J. McBride, W. C. Anderson.

Purvis—Elder W. B. Holcomb, T. C. King, Abner Polk, J. M. Holcomb.

Sandersville—G. W. McIntyre.

On motion, resolved, that we go into permanent organization.

Letters of dismissal from other Associations to the following churches were read: Lumberton, Ellisville, Purvis, Sandersville, Eastabuchie, Laurel, Hattiesburg, Augusta, Indian Springs, Poplarville.

Of these, four were from the Chickasahay, three from the Pearl Leaf, two from the Red Creek, and one from the Hobolochitto Association. Nicholson and Immanuel had not gone into any Association.

On motion, all churches enrolled and delegates present were unanimously received unto full fellowship, and by a unanimous vote the temporary officers were made permanent.

Sung "How Firm a foundation," and Elder J. A. Hackett led in prayer.

On motion, the following committees were appointed:

On Constitution—L. E. Hall, T. J. Hardy, K. D. Stephens, J. L. Herron, C. A. Bradley, J. M. Holcomb, R. D. Batson.

On Articles of Faith—W. B. Holcomb, Chas. G.



Elliott, W. A. Landrum, J. E. Arledge, G. B. Lee, Andrew Smith, J. M. Bush.

On Decorum—W. W. Mitchell, Lee Wood, W. E. Hathorn, W. J. Pack, Abner Polk, W. L. Hathorn, G. W. McIntyre.

On Name—J. F. Parker, J. F. Mixon, W. C. Anderson, T. C. King, G. Burkett, J. W. Quick, J. H. Bradley.

Adjourned to meet at 1:30 p. m.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON.

The first session of the Association met at 1:30 o'clock.

Prayer by Brother J. P. Williams.

Committee on Constitution reported.

On motion, it was taken up by sections and adopted. See p. 23.

Committee on name reported: They recommended the name Lebanon, which had been suggested by Bro. O. D. Bowen, who submitted his reasons for same in writing.

The report was adopted and the paper of Brother Bowen was ordered printed in the minutes. See p. 3.

Committee on Rules of Decorum submitted their report, which was adopted as a whole. See p. 26.

Committee on Articles of Faith reported, recommending those adopted by the Immanuel Church.

On motion, Sec. 1 was changed to read as the corresponding section in the Articles of Faith of the Chickasahay Baptist Association; also Sec. 9 was modified, and then the report was adopted as a whole. See p. 24.

On motion, committees on the following subjects were appointed :

Publications—S. J. McBride, W. E. Hathorn, M. C. Bowen, T. E. Ross.

Temperance—L. E. Hall, J. M. Holcomb, R. D. Batson, T. C. King.

Nominations—Abner Polk, J. M. Bush, W. R. McDonald, J. F. Mixon.

Missions—W. W. Mitchell, K. D. Stephens, G. Burkett, Andrew Smith.

Ministerial Education—Chas. G. Elliott, W. A. Landrum, C. A. Bradley, J. W. Quick.

Education—Lee Wood, J. L. Herron, J. E. Arledge, W. L. Hathorn.

Sunday-schools—W. C. Anderson, W. B. Holcomb, J. H. Bradley, J. W. Mixon.

The following resolutions were offered and adopted :

1. That this Association, in all of its work, co-operate with the Baptist State Convention, and that the Moderator appoint five delegates to represent it in the next meeting of the Convention.

2. That an Executive Committee of five be appointed by the Moderator, whose duty shall be to correspond and co-operate with the State Convention Board, with a view of supplying destitute places in the bounds of this Association as may seem wise in their judgment, and to attend to any business pertaining to the work of this body during its vacation.

The committee named were, L. E. Hall, T. J. Hardy, W. B. Holcomb, W. C. Anderson, W. W. Mitchell.

By special action of the Association, Bro. O. D

Bowen, the Moderator, was added to the Executive Committee.

Adjourned till 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.

At 6:30 o'clock Bro. L. E. Hall, pastor of the church at Hattiesburg, opened devotional exercises. At 7 he delivered an address of welcome to the visiting brethren. By request of the Moderator, Bro. T. J. Hardy responded.

Bro. J. A. Hackett then preached an able sermon from Rom. 5:8.

Bro. A. V. Rowe, at the close, briefly discussed the question of Sustentation.

Benediction by Bro. J. L. Findley.

## SECOND DAY—MORNING SESSION.

Association met at 9 o'clock. After devotional exercises, the Moderator announced the body ready for business.

Minutes of first day read and approved.

Visiting brethren were invited to seats with us as follows;

J. A. Hackett, editor of the Baptist Record, Meridian.

L. M. Stone, President of Stone College, Meridian.

A. V. Rowe. Corresponding Secretary of the State Convention Board, Jackson.

J. L. Findley, Pearl Leaf Association.

T. E. H. Robinson, Pearl Leaf Association.

J. P. Williams, Pearl Leaf Association.

N. L. Robertson, Pearl Leaf Association.



J. E. Davis, Pearl Leaf Association.

Bro. L. E. Hall read the

**Report on Temperance.**

Your committee on Temperance report :

That it is their firm conviction that prohibition is the only correct moral attitude for the church of Christ toward the use and sale of intoxicating liquors, and we believe that this is the correct legal attitude for the State.

We believe that in order to the attainment of this, we should, as individuals and as churches, abstain from the use and sale of liquor as a beverage, and as Christian citizens cast our votes and use our influence for the support of such men and measures as will accomplish the destruction of this great evil.

Respectfully submitted,

L. E. HALL,

J. M. HOLCOMB,

R. D. BATSON,

T. C. KING.

Spoken to by Brethren Hall, Rowe and Hackett.  
Adopted.

On motion, speeches were limited to five minutes each.

The report on Ministerial Education was prepared by Bro. J. A. Hackett, at the request of the chairman, and was read by Bro. Chas. G. Elliott, as follows :

It will be well if this Association, in the beginning shall align itself aright on the subject of Ministerial Education. There is nothing clearer than that we should educate men not for preachers, men whom God may

call, but that we should educate preachers. men whom God has called, to that great work. Only such men as God has called should be encouraged to enter or be put in the ministry. A well equipped ministry lies at the base of all successful church and mission work. To do effective mission work, that which in his last command our Lord gave to his churches, there must be well instructed and faithful churches; that there may be well instructed and faithful churches, there must be intelligent and well trained pastors; and for this purpose we conceive it to be a part of our duty to provide as far as we may for the fullest education and equipment of those young men in our midst whom we believe God has chosen to be his ministers. For this purpose we would heartily recommend Mississippi College, located at Clinton, as the most suitable school for such of our young men to obtain the needed literary instruction, and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary at Louisville, Ky., where they may secure most excellent theological advantages. We also recommend the work of the Board of Ministerial Education of our Baptist State Convention, also located at Clinton, whose work is, with the aid of our people, to provide for the material support of the young preachers whom the churches may send to Mississippi College, who are not otherwise provided for, and pledge ourselves to aid them as we may in their important work.

Respectfully submitted,

CHAS. G. ELLIOTT,  
C. A. BRADLEY,  
W. A. LANDRUM,  
Committee.

Spoken to by Brethren Hackett and Elliott and then adopted.

Bro. W. C. Anderson read the

**Report on Sunday Schools.**

Your committee on Sunday Schools are pleased to say that, from the statistics of the churches of this, the Lebanon Association, we can make a gratifying report of this branch of church work. The churches report in the aggregate 1,002 pupils, with 103 officers and teachers. Some of the schools are using the Southern Baptist Convention Series, and we earnestly recommend that all the schools in this Association get their literature from the Mission Rooms at Jackson, Miss.

We rejoice to know that Bro. B. N. Hatch, our State Sunday School evangelist, has been very successful in his work the past year, and since he has been reappointed, we welcome him to our Association in the interest of Sunday School work.

Respectfully submitted,

W. C. ANDERSON,  
W. B. HOLCOMB,  
J. H. BRADLEY,  
J. W. MIXON,

Committee.

Spoken to by Brethren Rowe, Hall, Hackett and Findley. Adopted.

Bro. A. V. Rowe, by request, read the

**Report on Missions.**

Let it be thoroughly understood in the early life of the Lebanon Association that we commit ourselves to



the cause of Missions in the pure belief that it is the cause of our Divine Lord. This cause among Southern Baptists is led by the Foreign Mission Board of Richmond, Va., and the Home Mission Board of Atlanta, Ga., and in Mississippi we recognize the leadership of the Convention Board, in both Foreign and Home Missions of the Southern Baptist Convention, and of State Missions.

There are in Foreign Mission fields of the Southern Baptist Convention 84 churches, 3328 members, 15 schools, and during the year ending May 1st, there were 629 baptisms and \$5,944.27 in contributions. There were quite a number of missionaries lately sent out to reinforce our work, and to meet the expenses incident to this work, we recommend that collections be taken for Foreign Missions in our own churches.

The Home Board is actively and energetically pushing the work in all our Southern Zion. Their report of last year's work shows :

Missionaries.....	281
Churches and Stations.....	1229
Baptisms.....	4470
Total additions.....	8509
Sunday Schools organized.....	429
Churches constituted.....	133
Houses built.....	67

We are receiving help in our State work to the amount of \$1500 a year. We urge upon our pastors and churches the claims of Home Missions, and hope that an increasing interest will be felt in this department of our work.

State Mission work has for a great many years rightly occupied a chief place in the hearts of Mississippi Baptists, and we are thankful for the great work accomplished. The last report shows:

Baptisms.....	840
Additions by letter.....	326
Churches constituted.....	5
Sunday Schools organized.....	44

Much work has been done resulting in the building up of strong churches in important centres. Much of this kind of work remains to be done in many growing towns in our State. Country communities are not overlooked in the work of the Board, but much help is extended to weak country churches, enabling them to carry on their work, and in many instances the establishment of our principles, where otherwise we would have had no representation.

The evangelical work of the Board has been a great blessing to our State. During the past year the Board has had the full time of Bro. G. W. Knight as General Evangelist, B. R. Hughey in the Columbus Association, one-third of L. E. Hall's time in southeast Mississippi, and B. N. Hatch in Sunday School work. The Board needs our help in this great work, and we bespeak for the Secretary the hearty co-operation of our churches and pastors, in their prayers and contributions, that this great work may go on in increasing power.

Respectfully submitted,

W. W. MITCHELL,  
ANDREW SMITH,  
G. BURKETT,  
Committee.

Pending discussion of the report the Association adjourned for ten minutes, when, according to previous appointment, Bro. A. V. Rowe preached. Text, John 4:35,36. The sermon was a strong plea for missions.

After the sermon the report was adopted without further discussion.

Adjourned to meet at 2 P. M.

---

## SECOND DAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

Association met at 2 o'clock.

Prayer by Bro. Chas. L. Lewis.

Report of the committee on Publications was read by Bro. W. E. Hathorn, as follows :

### **Report on Publications.**

Recognizing the potency of the religious press as a factor in advancing the cause of the Master's Kingdom, especially in moulding the views of those who read, therefore, in our judgment, only sound and wholesome literature should be procured. We recommend 1. The Book of books as entitled to our study. 2. The Baptist Record, and would insist upon our people taking, reading and paying for it. 3. The Foreign Mission Journal, to keep informed as to our Foreign Mission work. 4. The Home Field, for information upon Home Missions. 5. The Sunday School literature of our Southern Baptist Convention Board, as being all we could ask in the way of Sunday School helps.

Believing that Christian intelligence is the need of the hour, we emphasize the necessity of our people becoming a reading people.

Respectfully submitted,

S. J. McBRIDE,  
W. E. HATHORN,

Committee.

Spoken to by Brethren Mitchell, McBride, Holcomb, Findley, Williams, Elliott and Rowe. Adopted.

Bro. J. E. Arledge read the

**Report on Education.**

Your committee consider it unnecessary to make a lengthy report, though the subject of Education is one in which all of our people are deeply interested. It goes without saying that he who enters the arena of life without equipment on that line is unequally matched with the man who has had the advantages of a thorough education; and sooner or later, he will feel keenly the disadvantages under which he is laboring.

We urge upon our brethren to use every effort to educate their children, so that they may be the better prepared for the work that our Master has for them to do. To this end we would recommend Mississippi College for our young men, while for our daughters we have in Stone College, Meridian, an institution which offers as fine opportunities for higher education as any school in our country.

Respectfully submitted,

J. E. ARLEDGE.

Spoken to Brethren Lewis, Hall, Hackett and Rowe, and adopted.



On motion, Sister E. V. Clark, of Ellisville, was appointed Vice President of Woman's Work in this Association.

Report of the committee on Nominations was read by Bro. Abner Polk, as follows:

We, your committee on Nominations, recommend Poplarville as the next place of meeting, and Thursday before the third Sunday in September, 1895, as the time. That Bro. C. G. Elliott preach the Introductory Sermon, with Bro. J. R. Farish, as alternate.

Respectfully submitted,

ABNER POLK,

J. F. MIXON,

W. R. McDONALD,

Committee.

Adopted.

The following was offered by Bro. Hall and adopted:

Resolved, That the Clerk of this Association be instructed to have the minutes printed, and that the churches be requested to send him an amount sufficient to pay for the printing and to pay him \$15 for preparing and superintending the publication of the same.

Bro. W. C. Anderson offered the following, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we, the delegates and visitors to this Association, the first session of which we are now bringing to a close, tender to the Hattiesburg church, pastor and citizens, our sincere thanks for the kind treatment and open-handed liberality which has been shown us during this session, and we pray that the blessings of Heaven may rest upon this people.

The following delegates were appointed to the State Convention, which meets at Hazlehurst next summer : W. W. Mitchell, L. E. Hall, S. J. McBride, W. B. Holcomb, Chas. G. Elliott.

Bro. O. D. Bowen was unanimously elected to represent the Association in the Southern Baptist Convention, with Bro. J. R. Farish as alternate.

The delegates to the State Convention were instructed to fill any vacancy which might occur, with any brother present.

The Moderator was appointed to write a brief introduction to the minutes, setting forth the objects and purposes of this Association.

After prayer by Bro. A. V. Rowe, the Association adjourned to meet with the Poplarville church on Thursday before the third Sunday in September, 1895.

State  
mer :  
Hol-

repre-  
nven-

rueted  
rother

intro-  
s and

ciation  
ch on  
, 1895.

### Ordained Ministers--Their Postoffice.

---

O. D. Bowen.....	Ellisville, Miss
W. S. Culpepper...	Meridian, Miss
Chas. G. Elliott.....	Meridian, Miss
J. R. Farish.....	Meridian, Miss
L. E. Hall.....	Hattiesburg, Miss
W. B. Holcomb.....	Purvis, Miss
W. W. Mitchell.....	Poplarville, Miss
M. G. Turner.....	Ellisville, Miss

### Licentiates.

W. E. Hathorn.....	Batson, Miss
H. R. Curtis.....	Purvis, Miss
T. C. King.....	Purvis, Miss

## THE NAME "LEBANON."

1. Lebanon is a mountain range in the Holy Land and runs from southwest to northeast, and such is the geographical line of our Association.

2. Lebanon abounded with a variety of fruit trees and grape vines, and fruit was abundant. The object we have in view in organizing this Association is that it may be abundantly fruitful of good works, and so shall our Heavenly Father be glorified.

3. Lebanon abounded with Olive trees, and the Olive is a symbol of beauty, luxuriance and strength. Are not the churches of this Association clothed with the beautiful doctrines of primitive truth which were once for all delivered to the saints, and is not the membership thereof clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness imputed to them through faith? and will not their "fruit be unto holiness," and will not they be "strong in the Lord and in the power of his might?"

4. The Olive tree yielded oil; most valuable. It was used—

(1) For anointing kings, priests and prophets, in Israel. Is it not our prayer that through the instrumentality of this Association many precious souls will be anointed of the Holy Spirit, and made kings and priests unto God; and that a number of our brethren may be called of God to preach his gospel and anointed of him for this great work?

(2) For lamp lights. The wise virgins "took oil in their vessels with their lamps." May the membership of our churches be supplied with the oil of God's grace,



that they may "let their light so shine before men that others seeing their good works may glorify our Father who is in heaven."

(3) For medical purposes. The good Samaritan poured oil and wine into the wounds of the wounded Jew. May the tender, loving ministrations of the constituency of this body lead many broken-hearted, penitent souls to Jesus who heals the broken-hearted and saves with an everlasting salvation.

(4) For beautifying the countenance. May his grace that beautifies the meek, cause the faces of his saints to shine as did Moses' face, to cheer the weary pilgrim to Zion, and to make home happy and to irradiate the dwellings where sadness and sorrow linger.

\* (5) Lebanon was famous for its cedars. Israel's great and wise king utilized the cedars of Lebanon in building the Holy Temple, "the joy of the whole earth." Do we not trust that the membership of the churches of this Association form a part of that great spiritual temple "which is fitly framed together, and groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord?"

(6) The Lord said of Israel, "He shall cast forth his roots as Lebanon, his branches shall spread, and his beauty shall be as the Olive tree, and his smell as Lebanon." God grant that the membership of the churches of this body may be so rooted in Christ, the "Rock of Ages," that they may be able to stand the storms of trial and sorrow and temptation, and bid defiance to "the world, the flesh and the devil." And may the borders of this body of redeemed souls be extended far and wide; may she "lengthen her cords and

strengthen her stakes." And may the smell thereof be as "the smell of Lebanon." Yea, may the consecrated zeal and hearty, liberal, cheerful giving of time, talents and means of this body of saints be a "sweet-smelling savor unto God" and reach from the pine woods of Mississippi to the uttermost parts of the earth.

(7) The sweet singer in Israel (David) says, "The righteous shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon." Oh, may the children of God who have and who shall be hereafter united in the work of the Lord in this Association have abundant grace to grow higher in the divine life, and stronger every day like the beautiful cedars of Lebanon, and with a holy ambition aspire towards that bright world of joy eternal, where "they have no need of the sun neither of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God doth lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof."

Respectfully submitted,

J. F. PARKER, Chairman.

## CONSTITUTION.

---

ARTICLE 1. The name of this Association shall be the Lebanon Baptist Association.

ART. 2. The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, and a Clerk, who shall also be ex-officio Treasurer. These shall be elected annually by ballot and shall hold their offices until their successors are elected.

ART. 3. The object of this Association shall be the promotion of the Redeemer's kingdom by the concentration of Christian labor, the inculcation of Bible Truth, and the cultivation of friendly intercourse among the churches.

ART. 4. Members of the Association may be of two classes, viz.: Male delegates, and messengers who shall produce evidence of their appointment by the churches which they propose to represent before being entitled to seats. Only the delegates shall have the right to vote.

ART. 5. Each church belonging to the Association shall be entitled to two delegates until its membership shall exceed fifty, and one additional delegate for each additional fifty or fractional part thereof; provided, that ministers who are members of such churches, but supply other pulpits may be appointed as additional delegates to the regular quota.

ART. 6. This Association shall only have the power of an advisory council and shall in no wise infringe upon the rights or independence of the churches.

ART. 7. No queries shall be considered by the Association unless regularly sent up through the churches, and such queries shall embrace only questions of doctrine.

ART. 8. The Association shall meet annually as may be agreed upon, and, after enrolling the names of the delegates, proceed by ballot to the election of a Moderator, and a Clerk who shall be ex-officio Treasurer of the Association.

ART. 9. The duties of the various officers of the Association shall be similar to those of all deliberative bodies, and Mell's Parliamentary Manual shall be the basis of all decisions of order.

ART. 10. Churches holding the Articles of Faith adopted by this body, may become members of this Association by a unanimous vote, and letters of dismission may be obtained without assigning a reason therefor, by the concurrence of a majority present, while the Association retains the right of withdrawing from such churches as it shall deem heterodox or disorderly.

ART. 11. This Constitution may be altered or amended at any annual meeting of the Association by a three-fourths vote of the delegates present.

---

### Articles of Faith.

---

1. We believe in one God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost—equal in power and glory.

2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old Testament and the New were written by the inspiration of God, and are the only rule of faith and practice.

3. We believe in the doctrine of original sin, of total depravity and of man's inability to restore himself to the favor of God.

4. We believe that God chose his people, in Christ, before the foundation of the world, and that they are kept by the power of God through faith unto a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.



5. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Christ.

6. We believe that the Gospel is God's appointed means of calling sinners to the knowledge of the truth ; and as he has commanded it to be preached to every creature, all are required to obey.

7. We believe that good works are the fruits of faith, and the only evidence of justification ; and that all believers will abound therein from a principle of love.

8. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, the just and the unjust, and the general judgment, and that the joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

9. We believe that a visible Church of Christ is composed of baptized believers only, who have covenanted to keep up a discipline agreeable to the rules of the New Testament Scriptures.

10. We believe that Jesus Christ is the only law-giver of his church and that the government is with the church, each member having equal rights therein.

11. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are the only ordinances of the church, and are to be continued until the second coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

12. We believe that immersion only is Baptism, and can be administered only by those duly authorized by the church, and that only believers in Christ are the proper subjects of the ordinance.

13. We believe that regularly baptized believers only have a right to partake of the Lord's Supper.

14. We believe that the churches compose Christ's visible kingdom on the earth, and that they are independent of each other ; choosing their own bishops and other executive officers, none of whom may lord it over God's heritage.

## Rules of Decorum.

---

1. All meetings of the Association shall be opened with prayer and closed with praise or benediction.
2. The first order of business shall be calling of the roll of churches composing the same and the enrollment of delegates representing them.
3. No delegates can be enrolled until they furnish evidence in writing from the church which they propose to represent, which evidence shall be submitted to the Clerk.
4. No business shall be discussed by this body unless it shall have been brought before it by a motion sustained by a second.
5. No member shall be allowed to speak but once on the same subject, except by permission.
6. The Moderator may correct any speaker for misquotation, personal reflection, or indiscreet language.
7. Any member feeling himself aggrieved at the ruling of the Moderator may appeal to the Association, when, if it be sustained by a two-thirds vote, the Moderator's ruling shall be reversed.
8. All members shall use the term - Brother, - when addressing or speaking of each other; and anyone failing to observe this rule subjects himself to a reprimand by the Moderator.
9. Any or all of the rules may be altered or amended at any regular meeting by a two-thirds majority vote.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	NAME OF PASTOR.	CLERK.	CLERK'S POSTOFFICE.	Total Membership.	Sunday School Scholars.	Officers and Teachers.
Augusta	L. E. Hall	W. T. McCoy	Augusta	48	37	8
Eastabuchie	O. D. Bowen	H. H. McComb	Eastabuchie	45	78	8
Ellisville	O. D. Bowen	J. M. Bush	Ellisville	207	187	11
Hattiesburg	L. E. Hall	Frank Smith	Hattiesburg	193	147	9
Immanuel	Chas. G. Elliott	A. P. Pool	Meridian	28	55	5
Indian Springs	L. E. Hall	R. D. Batson	Batson	64	32	8
Laurel	W. S. Culppepper	K. D. Stephens	Laurel	103	85	13
Lumberton	W. B. Holcomb		Lumberton	56	40	6
Nicholson	L. E. Hall	H. W. Stockstill	Nicholson	17	45	8
Poplarville	J. R. Carter	W. H. Rich.	Poplarville	98	75	10
Purvis	W. B. Holcomb	H. R. Curtis	Purvis	186	165	10
Sandersville	O. D. Bowen	A. McDaniel	Sandersville	86	56	5
				1131	1002	103

\*Gone into winter quarters.

## Rules of Decorum.

---

1. All meetings of the Association shall be opened with prayer and closed with praise or benediction.
2. The first order of business shall be calling of the roll of churches composing the same and the enrollment of delegates representing them.
3. No delegates can be enrolled until they furnish evidence in writing from the church which they propose to represent, which evidence shall be submitted to the Clerk.
4. No business shall be discussed by this body unless it shall have been brought before it by a motion sustained by a second.
5. No member shall be allowed to speak but once on the same subject, except by permission.
6. The Moderator may correct any speaker for misquotation, personal reflection, or indiscreet language.
7. Any member feeling himself aggrieved at the ruling of the Moderator may appeal to the Association, when, if it be sustained by a two-thirds vote, the Moderator's ruling shall be reversed.
8. All members shall use the term "Brother," when addressing or speaking of each other; and anyone failing to observe this rule subjects himself to a reprimand by the Moderator.
9. Any or all of the rules may be altered or amended at any regular meeting by a two-thirds majority vote.



STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	NAME OF PASTOR.	CLERK,	CLERK'S POSTOFFICE.	Total Membership.	Sunday School Scholars.	Officers and Teachers.
Augusta .....	L. E. Hall .....	W. T. McCoy .....	Augusta .....	48	37	8
Eastabuchie .....	O. D. Bowen .....	H. H. McComb .....	Eastabuchie .....	45	75	8
Ellisville .....	O. D. Bowen .....	J. M. Bush .....	Ellisville .....	207	187	11
Hattiesburg .....	L. E. Hall .....	Frank Smith .....	Hattiesburg .....	193	147	9
Immanuel .....	Chas. G. Elliott .....	A. P. Pool .....	Meridian .....	28	55	8
Indian Springs .....	L. E. Hall .....	R. D. Batson .....	Batson .....	64	*32	4
Laurel .....	W. S. Culppepper .....	K. D. Stephens .....	Laurel .....	103	85	13
Lumberton .....	W. B. Holcomb .....	H. W. Stockstill .....	Lumberton .....	56	40	6
Nicholson .....	L. E. Hall .....	W. H. Rich .....	Nicholson .....	17	45	8
Poplarville .....	J. R. Carter .....	H. R. Curtis .....	Poplarville .....	98	75	10
Purvis .....	W. B. Holcomb .....	A. McDaniel .....	Purvis .....	186	165	10
Sandersville .....	O. D. Bowen .....		Sandersville .....	86	56	5
.....	.....	.....	.....	1131	1002	103

\*Gone into winter quarters.

